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NOVEMBER MEETING, 1880.

The regular monthly meeting of the Society was held on Thursday, November 11th, at 3 o'clock, P.M., in the Dowse Library; the President, Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.

In the absence of the Recording Secretary, Rev. H. W. FOOTE was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

The Librarian communicated a list of the accessions to the Library during the last month.

The Corresponding Secretary presented his report.

The President then spoke as follows:—

I was sorry, Gentlemen, to be absent from the last monthly meeting of our Society; but I have abundant assurance, both from the records which have just been read and from other sources, that the Society lost nothing by my absence;—thanks to the kindness and never-failing readiness of Dr. Ellis.

My detention for more than three weeks at New York deprived me of the enjoyment of more than one interesting occasion, both here and elsewhere.

Governor Long had been good enough to include me, as the President of this Society, among those specially invited to the Council Chamber on the 25th ultimo, to commemorate the centennial anniversary of the organization of our State Government, under the Constitution of 1780; and our brethren of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society had paid us a similar honor.

Of that Constitution, John Adams, pre-eminently, and James Bowdoin and Samuel Adams were the framers; and the Convention which ratified and adopted it, over which Bowdoin presided, included Hancock and Lowell and Cabot and Gorham and Sullivan and Cushing and Caleb Strong and all the other great names of the Massachusetts of that day, embodying as much of patriotism and of political experience and wisdom as any assembly ever gathered on New England or American soil. Bowdoin, writing soon afterward to John Adams, who had gone Ambassador to France, said of its work: "The era of the new government commenced accidentally on the anniversary of the demise of his late Majesty,

George II. Some good people think this circumstance a happy omen, indicating a perpetual end to regal government in these States." George II. had died on the 25th of October, just twenty years before; but the dates of the deaths and births of kings and queens were not soon forgotten in those old colony times, and the death of George II. had been particularly impressed upon the memories of all Harvard graduates by its having given occasion to the famous volume, — "*Pietas et Gratulatio*," — to which more than one of the eminent men of our Constitutional era had contributed. At all events, the omen has not proved fallacious.

As the President of this Society, moreover, as well as in other capacities, I had urgent invitations to be present at the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary, or, as it has somewhere been odiously entitled, the sesqui-centennial, of the settlement of Baltimore, the celebration of which lasted four or five days. One of these days, the 12th of October, was occupied by the Maryland Historical Society with an address and a banquet. The venerable philanthropist, Peter Cooper, of New York, who has some peculiar ties to the Monumental City, as Baltimore is called, and who, in his 81st year, was one of the principal guests of the occasion, told me that, in all his long experience, he had never witnessed so successful and so splendid a celebration in any part of the world. If we could all, in all quarters of our country, be as zealous in maintaining the purity and integrity of our institutions, as we have been of late in glorifying their establishment and celebrating their founders, we should not require the omen of the death of kings to assure us of the perpetuation of free government. It may be hoped and expected that our library will receive, at no distant day, a full account of this great historical commemoration in Baltimore.

But, more than any of the public occasions to which I have thus alluded, I should have enjoyed the quiet observance, to which I was kindly invited, of the 97th birthday of good old Artemas Hale, of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, with whom I served in Congress from 1845 to 1849, and for whom the highest regard and respect are everywhere entertained. He had completed ninety-seven years on the 20th of October last, and was able to entertain company at dinner. You will all, I am sure, unite heartily with me in hoping that he may be permitted to finish a century of life, and to exhibit, like Dr. Holyoke, of Salem, in 1828, the remarkable vitality and vigor which he now enjoys, and which is so rare at such an age.

Mr. Hale has been spoken of, in the newspapers, as the oldest living ex-member of Congress, and, in one sense of that phrase, he probably is. He is, so far as we know, the oldest man now living who has ever served in the House of Representatives of the United States. But there is another sense to the description which has been given of him. There are many men living in all parts of the country who were in Congress long before he was, and who are thus older than he in their relations to the National Legislature.

I had supposed, for a long time, that my venerable friend, the late Hon. Peleg Sprague, who died during my absence, on the 12th ultimo, in his 88th year, was the senior ex-member of Congress in this latter sense. He was known to this generation only by his long and eminent services as Judge of our United States District Court. But he had been not less distinguished in another generation as a representative and as a senator in Congress from the State of Maine for ten years, beginning in 1825 and ending in 1835. He had thus entered Congress fifty-five years ago.

But our accomplished Honorary Member, Mr. Grigsby, has called my attention to the fact that his friend, the Hon. Mark Alexander, now in his 89th year, was a representative in Congress from Mecklenburg County, Virginia, where he still resides in the full enjoyment of all his faculties, from 1819 to 1833; and, still further, that the Hon. John A. Cuthbert, originally of Georgia, and now a practising lawyer in Florida, was in the same Congress with Mark Alexander in 1819, — sixty-one years ago.

These gentlemen are believed, in default of further discoveries, to be the oldest living ex-members of Congress, though not the oldest men living who have been members. Among these last, I may add, Massachusetts may count more than one. Besides Artemas Hale, there is Joseph Grinnell, who represented the New Bedford District from 1843 to 1851, and whom I met last month at New York, in full health and activity, in his 92d year. Nor can I forget our Associate, Charles Hudson, the historian of Lexington, whose pen is still active in his 86th year, and who was in Congress from 1841 to 1849. In conclusion, I may once more illustrate the distinction — obvious enough without illustration, but which is often of late confounded in common parlance or in newspaper paragraphs — by saying that I am myself an older ex-member of Congress than any of those three venerable Massachusetts friends, though they are considerably older men than I am.

George Otto Trevelyan, Esq., of London, and Henry Adams, of Washington, D. C., were nominated as Corresponding Members.

Rev. Dr. GEORGE E. ELLIS read an interesting letter which he had received from his brother, the Rev. Rufus Ellis, D.D., minister of the First Church, describing a visit while in England to the English homes of some of the progenitors of this Commonwealth, as follows : —

When I found that I should have some days and possibly weeks in England this summer of our two hundred and fiftieth year in Church and State, my thoughts naturally turned toward the English homes of the fathers and mothers of the Commonwealth and congregations of Massachusetts. My good neighbor and kind friend, the President of the Massachusetts Historical Society, was beforehand with the suggestion that I should run down from London to the home of his ancestor, whose name none of us can ever speak without a sense of reverence and deep gratitude ; and, lest I should hesitate, he provided me with a letter of introduction to the rector of Groton. The day — I wish it had been an entire day — in that quiet place was my first experience on old Puritan ground, with the exception of a few hours in old Boston ten years ago. The rector, who appreciates things in America, and is glad to be indebted to Mr. Winthrop for many kindnesses, gave to G. and myself a most cordial welcome and large hospitality in the rectory, a part of which is more than three hundred years old, as one might gather from its low ceiling and rough-hewn beams. Indeed, the minister told me that only with extreme caution could our friend the Rev. Phillips Brooks “get about” under the door-ways. He is not in the habit of “losing his head,” but it is a wonder he did not then and there.

The church of which Adam Winthrop was patron is a fine old building, with admirable capabilities for restoration, of which the Winthrop descendants in our country have generously availed themselves. Besides the beautiful chancel window, a new organ chamber is in process of construction, under the same encouragement from “children’s children unto the third and fourth generations.” The exquisitely written church register, with the names of Adam Winthrop and John Winthrop his son, is carefully preserved, and we saw the site of the old manor house and the mulberry-tree of John Winthrop’s day ; but it was more than the sight of any particular object to be on the very spot where our founder had

lived during his earliest years, where his Puritanism deepened into a settled conviction, and, better than all, his manly and gentle nature was nurtured. It was an average day,—that is, a rainy day,—and it rained all the way from Liverpool Street Station to Groton, but that did not matter; it seemed so pleasant to read familiar names at the stations; for example, Malden, Hadleigh (not our briefer spelling), Sudbury, and Yarmouth (which we left on our right and did not go to), and to think of the Winthrops, father and son, making the journey on horseback to London, through the same country in that old fermenting and transition time. I was glad, by the way, to find that, however destructive Cromwell's soldiers sometimes were, the Puritans are not to be held accountable for the whitewash and mortar in and on the old churches,—these belong to a much later day. I shall always recall my visit to Groton with great satisfaction, and am very glad that it came off this year. But this is only the beginning of my experiences. One evening my eyes fortunately fell upon an article in the "Saturday Review" upon "Oakham and Uppingham." Why I read on I can't tell, for Oakham and Uppingham meant nothing to me. Still I did read, and before long my eye caught the name of Isaac Johnson, of whom and of the Lady Arbella the record is at once so brief and so sad, to our great disappointment. Being a great *ignoramus* in such matters, I was, of course, like other ignoramuses, delighted to find that in one thing I was better informed than the writer of the paper, and that Johnson's wife died before her husband, and not after him, as he wrote. I hope I am right. But, seriously, the columns proved to be exceedingly interesting. I was reading of what must be one of the most fascinating places in England, and at the same time of the old home of the Johnsons. So we decided to go to Oakham and Uppingham, and then to Stamford, Peterborough, Boston, and Lincoln. I wish now I had added Scrooby. Well, Oakham—reached in a few hours by the Midland Railroad, excellent when it has no accident, as it is rather in the way of having—is one of the most fascinating places you ever saw or dreamed of. Extremely old-fashioned, quaint, thatched more or less, and grass-grown, a good deal behind the times, one would say, compassed about by "gentry," with a lovely old "butter-cross" in the centre of the town, shops that seem to have no customers to speak of, and beyond all an exquisite church and two of the finest specimens of old house and old castle in England. A kind letter from the writer in the "Saturday Review" prepared my way and secured me a

favorable reception from the rector, who, however, when I owned up, as in honor bound, to a considerable amount of broad churchism, (what right has an Anglican to quarrel with that?) manifested a deal of anxiety about me, but none the less provided me with a genealogy, a copy of which was afterward given to me by a Johnson, and will be plainer reading to you than to me. It will give you interesting information about the past and present Johnsons, who in the former days and now in these days were and are lords of the manor in Rutlandshire, like Adam Winthrop. I don't think the rector knew or cared to know much about the Puritan, and had not read, as some of his parishioners had, the article in the "Saturday Review," written, by the way, by an arch-deacon connected with the Lincoln Cathedral; but he told me, what I had already heard, that one of the Johnsons was to be in Oakham, as good luck would have it, that very evening, on his way to "a meet," I opined. He came, and I had a very pleasant talk with him. His eldest brother represents now one of the Johnson estates, and presides over its great trusts for the poor and for the education of young men in two endowed schools or collections of schools, the larger in Uppingham, the smaller in Oakham. These schools were founded by Archdeacon Johnson, the grandfather of our Isaac, and they have a deservedly great name for the great men they have educated. I visited the Uppingham "Institution," as we should be left to call it, and if I had a dozen boys to educate I would borrow the money and send them there. One of their school arrangements was perfect; each boy has in the large school-yard a little study warmed by hot-water pipes, and fitted up plainly or elaborately according to individual taste. I was delighted with the head-master, the Rev. Mr. Thring, and I presume I should have been with most of the other masters. Mr. Thring has raised his school from twenty-five to three hundred and twenty scholars. Jeremy Taylor was four years rector of Uppingham, and the sexton shows his pulpit as "Gen'ral Taylor's pulpit; or Gen'l'man's Taylor's, I don't mind which; anyhow, he lived a long while ago."

The Flores House, in Oakham, is early English, with a shafted doorway of the thirteenth century, and is a beautiful relic of domestic architecture. The castle is happily unaltered in what remains of it, and is of exceeding beauty; well enough preserved to serve still as a court-room for the assizes. "Next to the singular beauty of the architecture, the horseshoes which crowd the walls — the tribute of many

regal as well as noble visitors, from Queen Elizabeth down to her present Majesty when Princess Victoria, and the Princess Teck—attract the visitors' attention. There are horseshoes of every size, from the huge Brobdignagian gilt rings six feet across, which hang over the judge's seat, to the little shoes of as many inches over the side doors, and of various materials, from that of George IV., when Prince Regent, of polished brass, to the humble, matter-of-fact, rusty iron shoes actually taken from a horse's foot." Every peer of Parliament, according to ancient "custom of the manor," must contribute a horseshoe, to be nailed to the castle gate the first time he enters the town. All these things are exceedingly fascinating, and the church, judiciously restored, not the least. The earliest portions go back to the beginning of the fourteenth century, and a grand old Norman tub-shaped font remains. But—more interesting than all else—we were in the region of the Johnsons, from Maurice of Stamford, "a Catholic" M. P. 1525, to Rev. Robert, installed rector of North Luffenham in 1571, Archdeacon of Leicester, born about 1540, chaplain to the Lord Keeper, Sir Nicholas Bacon, favored with a confirmation of arms from Queen Elizabeth's own hand, founder of these famous schools and of "exhibitions" in colleges at Cambridge. Then comes Abraham, and then our Isaac, lord of the manors of Clipsham, County Rutland, and of Brampston, County Northants, Esq., "a Puritan," aged eighteen in 1618; went to New England in "Mr. Winthorpe's party" in 1629, and died at Boston, in New England, 30 Sept. 1630. The Johnsons were not all on one side. One of them, the Rev. "Ezechiel" was ejected from Paulerspury by the Parliamentarians. The archdeacon was also Prebendary of Windsor and Rochester, "preached painfully and kept good hospitality," and lived on this earth eighty-five years, which is quite long enough.

At Stamford I found the widow of the late Lieut.-Gen. William Augustus Johnson of Wytham on the Hill, who died in 1863 at the advanced age of eighty-six, a distinguished soldier and member of Parliament for old Boston. His eldest son, in conformity with the statutes, is at present patron of the schools of Oakham and Uppingham. Mrs. Johnson is greatly interested in the family story, and most kindly gave me all she had to give in the way of records. I might go on with this until even you would be weary, as I certainly should be. But I must add that I passed on to Peterborough, Lincoln, and Boston, where I was most hospitably entertained by those of like faith, and was assured by

the rector of St. Botolph's that he should surely have come to the Boston two hundred and fiftieth had they telegraphed his invitation from the old Boston to his retreat somewhere in Scotland ; but old Boston is a much slower place than the New England city of that name, and the authorities sent the message by mail, and it was too late. All the while I have been saying to myself, What a day of faith that was in England ! Why, just when I was in that county of Rutland, with its dear old towns, houses, and churches, "the gentry," as the driver of our dog-cart called the idle people, were beginning to be occupied five days in the week with riding pell mell after a few poor hares or foxes ! Out of just such surroundings went the Puritans, convinced, I suppose, that the case was wellnigh hopeless for any who would live their intense life, whether in the church or in the baronial hall or in the manor house. "They went out not knowing whither they went," and it turned out that Puritanism and a Commonwealth were more than England could bear in that day. If only those men and women could have remained to help, through their children and children's children, the England of to-day, to make their own all that was divine and human, holy and healthy in Puritanism and the Commonwealth ! But then where should we have been ? and doubtless God knows and provides what is best and makes history better than we can.

I ought to add that I passed through Derby, Cotton's birth-place, and through Northampton, which may claim Dudley, who, by the way, to tell the truth, is not a special favorite of mine, if he was a founder. I was sorry to find at Windsor that in reflooring the chapel in 1789 they removed the stone and the brasses thereon, which ought still to preserve the name of the father of our John Wilson. It seems to me that the least they can do is to put the old brasses in some safe place, and not let them go to the junk shop. The resident canon, Rev. Hugh Pearson, was very kind in looking up this matter, and sincerely regretted the neglect of the curators of the building in former days. How glad I should be of that old brass in our chapel ! I ought to have had a stone from St. Botolph's, for that congregation loved Cotton if Laud did not. I have a "boss" from the old ceiling, made of oak, and removed in 1662. It is very genuine and very ugly, but also very precious. Mr. Edward Everett tried to buy for our church an old iron-bound chest, used — when he fell in with it — by the workmen about the building for their beer and bread, though it once held the communion vessels, and was

borne off at one time with those precious contents by sacrilegious thieves; but when the church authorities learned how much he prized it, they fitted it up themselves, and would not sell. We Unitarians would not have used it as a receptacle for beer and biscuit.

Dr. EVERETT called attention to the fact that the districts in England, alluded to in the paper of Dr. Ellis, preserve the same tones and modes of pronouncing the names of places which were brought to this country by the Puritans. This led to a discussion of some details of such pronunciation, by Mr. C. C. Perkins, Dr. Everett, and Dr. Green.

On the motion of Mr. CHARLES C. SMITH, it was

Voted, That the Recording Secretary, Mr. George Dexter, and the Rev. H. M. Dexter, D.D., be authorized to represent the Society while abroad, on all proper occasions.

Mr. DEANE communicated a copy of a letter, and abstracts of several other letters, of Edward Randolph, celebrated as "the evil genius of New England," transcribed from the originals in the library of the late Sir Thomas Phillipps, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England, by Mrs. Mary Anne Everett Greene, well known as the editor of several of the Calendars of the English State Papers. The letters were addressed to Sir Robert Southwell, an English statesman and diplomatist. These abstracts were made for the late Rev. Leonard Woods, LL.D., in 1868, while in pursuit of material to illustrate the history of Maine. The letter of which a full copy is given was written when Randolph was about to sail to New England to serve the writ of *quo warranto* against the Massachusetts Charter. The other letters, or the principal part of them, were written on his return to England, and while waiting to be again sent to Boston, on his fifth voyage, in the full expectation of a permanent provision being made for his employment there in the government which was preparing to take the place of that which fell on the revocation of the charter. Mr. DEANE expressed the opinion that it would some time be desirable to obtain complete transcripts of all these letters, which he thought could be effected with little cost, and that the publication of these abstracts would serve as a reminder.

Mr. DEANE also communicated for publication in the Proceedings a transcript from the State archives of Randolph's "Narrative" of his several voyages to New England, with

the several dates of sailing and arriving to and fro, which he had recently had occasion to consult, and which he found convenient and valuable as a reference in studying the history of the period to which it related. He had noticed other Randolph papers in the State archives which he believed had never been published.

The papers communicated by Mr. DEANE here follow: — *

PHILLIPPS MS. 8720.

Volume of letters from Edw. Randolph to Sir Rob. Southwell relative to a proposed voyage to New England, containing a good deal of miscellaneous matter also.†

1683, Aug. 19, *Whitehall*. HON^D SIR, — Since mine to you of the 28 last, the Rose frigate of 20 guns, an Algerine prize, is fitted out to sea, and bound to the Spanish wreck off the Bahama islands, under the conduct of one Phips, a New England man, who upon his late successful returns in that undertaking, is entrusted by his Majesty and commissioned for the whole business. He is to call at Boston to take in his diving tubs and other necessities, and to return to England to account for and share the purchase, upon which ship I am now directed to take my passage. The Boston agents are in the Downs, and stay till our ship, now at Deptford, falls down, being obliged to stay here by order in Council, till I am ready to sail, which gives me a credit — and but needful — for by those who come now from thence, as also by my letters, I have great reason to believe the party there had more than hints of the horrid conspiracy lately detected; for at my coming away, they were very calm, but since, high and daring in words and actions, hoping the Lord would work a great deliverance for his own, as they usually cant. I hope to be with them in October, the session of their general court; 'twill startle them to find such a round turn; and if they do not comply in all duty, they will make themselves for ever after incapable of the blessings offered in his Majesty's declaration to them, which will be sent you from the Plantation office.

I have spent some time with Mr. Dudley, one of their present

* Since communicating these papers to the Society my attention has been called to the fact that Randolph's "Narrative" has already been published by Mr. Whitmore, in the Andros Tracts, vol. iii. pp. 214-218. This had quite escaped my attention or recollection. However, on examining the copy there printed, I find that by some inadvertence one entry has been omitted, and a wrong date given to another, so that, it being desirable to correct these errors, the Publishing Committee have decided to reprint the "Narrative" here. There are besides several errors in the original manuscript which it is important should be pointed out; and this has been done in notes appended to it. The orthography of the manuscript has been modernized, and the abbreviations generally have been spelled out in printing.

Our Associate, Mr. C. W. Tuttle, has announced his intention of publishing a Life of Edward Randolph, with a collection of his letters. — D.

† This is probably the heading of the copyist. — D.

agents, endeavoring to accommodate things for their future settlement, as by the enclosed paper* which we have agreed; whether upon design (as the former agents) to get leave to go home, I know not, but certain it is that all this is very necessary on his Majesty's behalf, to be put in practice there.

As to the way of settling the chief power, I certainly believe nothing can be so wholesome for the whole plantation as to have one Governor general — a sober, discreet gentleman, to be sent from his Majesty, and to have a Council chose out of the Magistrates of all the colonies and provinces, in all not consisting above 25, to be like the house of Lords, to hear all appeals from inferior courts, and to assign places and persons to try causes arising betwixt colony and colony and inhabitants of different colonies. I remember it has been often proposed that 5 or 7 persons were commissioned to manage the whole country, and those to be nominated and sent over by his Majesty at his charge. I believe 'twould be very difficult to get a salary for two fit persons to be joined in commission with one upon the place, and except they had a plentiful allowance, good men would not undertake that service. If to expect it from the revenue which may arise upon the place, it would seem grievous to them to maintain their governors and followers at such rates as are just necessary for their handsome support; besides in a short time the power at first distributed to several would soon centre in one person, as now in the Treasury and Admiralty. I believe a governor general would be very grateful to all sober persons, and in regard they are extended a great distance upon the sea, and so cannot without great trouble repair to Boston, the chief residence, here very necessary that two deputy governors were appointed, and the plantation divided as the two ridings in Yorkshire. We daily experience the difficulty of despatch, by multiplying addresses to the offices managed by Commissioners.

I am now entering upon my fourth voyage for New England, where in all my transactions, I have plainly demonstrated that I have chiefly aimed at his Majesty's service, having omitted all advantages and proposals to gratify my private affairs. I am now out of purse above 300£ in prosecuting seizures made and followed with great hazard and charge, and although I have to this day received nothing towards it but my travelling charges, which every gentleman passes in his steward's or other servant's account, I have still suppressed every thing relating to myself, in hopes at last to find a just reward for all my undertakings. I have now 4 daughters living; it may please God so to order it that I may by sea or other accident be taken away. 'Twould be but justice that my commission might be managed by my brother, who now goes over with me, and that my children thereby might receive the benefit of it; besides I have discovered a tract of land granted to and a long time in the possession of Hugh Peters, since disposed of by his agent. Its worth 2 or 3 hundred pounds. Its forfeited by his treason to the King and the grant of it would be a

* This enclosure is not in the collection.

kindness to my children. The daily objects of pity I meet with at Court, of such whose relations have spent in his Majesty's service their lives and fortunes obliges me, for my children's sake, to engage my friends in their behalf, in case of any accident befalling me. [3 pp.]

1683, *Aug. 19, Whitehall*. Promises him "a collection of such rarities as my interest and the shortness of my stay there can procure." [$\frac{1}{2}$ p.]

1684, *May 3, Whitehall*. About the reversion of places in the tower, or some other preferment for Sir Thomas Smith. Is going to New England on one of 2 ships sent from Bristol. [3 pp.]

1684, *May 13, Whitehall*. Expects to have to go to New England, but it is to be decided by Council. The princess of Denmark is delivered of a dead daughter. T. Oates is arrested at the Duke's suit for *scandalum magnatum*. [1 p.]

May 17, Whitehall. Will not have to go to New England. The error in the Bostoners' charter having been acknowledged hopes to get judgment against it next term. Sends letters for friends in N. E.

1684-5, *Jan. 29, Whitehall*. I lost a wife in New England. I have sent an account of my whole adventures and charges there to the Com^r and the King has commended me to the Treasury. All the mischiefs expected in Boston are laid to my charge. Has sent a list of names to be put on the Council, but knows none of them will come to hear Divine service.

There are complaints from New Hampshire of the arbitrary conduct of the governor in imprisoning as conspirators some who met only to execute a will. Touching particulars — some miners have arrived in N. E. who have undertaken the lead mines. There is a difference between Lord Baltimore and Mr. Penn about boundaries. Other particulars relating to Maryland and Virginia and Boston. [4 pp.]

Abstract of Mr. Randolph's pet. to the Com^r for Trade, giving a digest of his services relating to N. E. from March 1675-6 to Oct. 15, 1684, and reference of his pet. to the Treasury Comrs.

Randolph's letters to Southwell continued.

1684-5, *Feb. 16, Whitehall*. Court news on the accession of James II. (curious). The king will discountenance the late immorality at Court, and has put away Mrs. Sibley.* [1 p.]

May 9, Plantation Office. Curious details of the trials on Titus Oates' plot. [3 pp.]

July 30. Court news. Has *quo warrantos* against Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey, and Delaware. Expects to go to N. E. News from Boston. Impost of Tobacco from Virginia, &c. [2 pp.]

Aug. 1, Plantation Office. Court News. Mr. Coney, governor of Bermudas, is called home.† Asks whether to try for that government. Likes N. E. well, and could live happily there in spite of their ill

* Probably Mrs. Sedley was written or intended. See Macaulay's Hist. of England, vol. i. chap. vi. — D.

† He resigned the government 12 April, 1687. — D.

treatment. They will in time be convinced of their folly in contending with their Prince. The troubles of 1681 broke his wife's heart. If "General Kirk be the man for N. E. I cannot see how that can be a place for me." Argues the advisability of his own return thither. [3½ pp.]

1685, *Aug. 3, Lord Sunderland's Office.* News about the Rye House Plot. [1 p.]

Aug. 8. Private affairs — many hundreds of families are removing to the foreign plantations. They are affrighted at their new governor. Should he pass the seas into foreign parts, whither then will they remove? [1 p.]

Aug. 17. Will hear to-morrow about going to N. E. Court news. None about court are tempted to change their religion by the splendid accommodations of the new chapel.

Aug. 29. Is going to N. E. with large powers from the Customs Comrs. and is taking a comⁿ for a temporary government. They have been in a terrible fright of Col. Kirk's being sent. He has shortened his passage to N. E. by his late expedition to the west. Lord Jeffries reproved him severely on his return to Windsor. Home news. [1¾ pp.]

Sept. 1. News. The navy comⁿ are to conclude about a supply of mails from N. E. The Virginia merchants are dissatisfied about their Tobacco. [1 p.]

1685, *Sept. 7.* Death of the Lord Keeper.* I am hurried to be gone for N. E. [1 p.]

Sept. 10, Plantation Office. News. Mr. Mason is to be of the N. E. Council. He should be advised to moderation, or he will get into a ferment against his former antagonists. I have asked a frigate, or else as the country is 100 leagues of coast I cannot secure it against the shipping away of tobacco and sugar. [2 pp.]

Oct. 3. Mr. Mason spoken of as governor of Bermudas. Nothing but the late king's promise pleads for Col. Kirk to be governor of N. E. and the Taunton affair is more than flying rumours. [2 pp.]

Oct. 14. Sails in 10 days. Court news. [1 p.]

Oct. 23. Preparations for starting. Hopes the settlement of the distracted country on a good foundation. Expected to find them turbulent, but when they hear that matters turn so quick upon their friends in England, and that sheriff Cornish was hanged in Cheapside, they will be glad to be quiet on any terms. [2 pp.]

Nov. 10, Deal. Is to erect a post office in N. E., will give the profits to Mr. Mason's children. [1 p.]

Nov. 23, Deal. Hopes to sail in 2 or 3 days. Has an ague. [1 p.]

Nov. 27, Deal. The happy understanding which may be the product of this prorogation will oblige the N. E. people to dutiful compliance with the King's commands. Has a deputation to be postmaster of N. E. If the King would send over Sir M. Vincent, or some gentleman of good estate, it would ease those people who have been

* Francis North, Earl of Guilford. — D.

greatly oppressed and will be ruined by the late imposts on plantation commodities. [1½ pp.]

1685-6, *Jan.* 11, *Deal*. Is detained by damage to the ship in a storm. Wishes they had sailed before the report of another prorogation. Is taking a sober gentleman as minister. The commander will continue a year on the coast, unless sent home with prisoners, and that may keep the heady in awe.* [1 p.]

[1686] *July* 10, *Boston*. Dangerous and tedious voyage. Coming with an olive branch, was welcomed at first. Long details of ill treatment of himself and wife from the government in Boston. [3 pp.]

[RANDOLPH'S NARRATIVE.]

Mass. Archives, vol. cxxvii. pp. 218-220.

A short Narrative of my proceedings and several voyages to and from N. England to Whitehall during the time of my managing his Majesty's affairs in N. England, humbly presented by Edward Randolph.

1675, *Mar.* 20. I received his Majesty's letters to the Governor and Company of Massachusetts Bay in New England to attend at Whitehall and answer the complaints brought against them by Mr. Mason and Mr. Gorges.

1676, *June* 10. I arrived in N. England and delivered his Majesty's letters to the Governor and Council then sitting at Boston.

July 30. I embarked myself for England.

Sept. 10. I landed at Dover and presented the Rt Honorable the Lords of the Committee for Trade with a Narrative of the estate of their country and government, and exhibited articles of high Misdemeanor against the Governor and Company.

1678,† *Dec.* 20. Two agents arrived in England from Boston to make their defence. I attended two years and made good my charge against the Governor and Company at the Council Chamber. The agents confess the fact, pray his Majesty's pardon, and acknowledge his Majesty's right to the Government of the Province of N. Hampshire.

1679, *Sept.* 10. The Boston agents have leave to return and new agents to be sent with full power.

Oct. 23. I was commanded to go for N. England by way of N.

* "Jan. 20 (1685-6). I and my family embarked upon the Rose frigate for N. England. May 14, 1686, I arrived at Boston with his Majesty's commission of Government to a President and Council." — *Randolph's Narrative*.

† This should be 1676. The agents, William Stoughton and Peter Bulkley, sailed for England, Oct. 30, 1676, and probably arrived in England, December 20, the month and day given by Randolph. They remained in England nearly three years, or till the autumn of 1679, when they obtained leave to return home, and arrived at Boston, December 23 of that year. Randolph made his second visit to New England about the same time, arriving in New York some two weeks before the agents arrived at Boston. — D.

York to carry over his Majesty's Commission of Government directed to a President and Council in New Hampshire.

29. I shipped all my goods and household stuff of a considerable value upon a vessel belonging to N. England and are all lost at sea, together with his late Majesty's picture and royal arms sent to N. Hampshire.

¹ *Dec. 7.* I arrived to N. York and travelled by land from thence to New Hampshire in the winter, nigh four hundred miles.

27. I arrived at N. Hampshire and after great Opposition made by the Bostoneers settled his [Majesty's] Government in that Province.

Jan. 15. His Majesty's Government declared and owned in the Province of New Hampshire.

28. I returned from N. Hampshire to Boston impowered by the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs to prevent the irregular trade. I seized several of their vessels with their loading.

1680.* His Majesty's authority and the Acts of Trade disowned openly in their courts and I was cast in all these causes and damage given against his Majesty.

March 15. Having complained hereof I returned to England and obtained his Majesty's Letters Patents to be Collector, &c., of his Majesty's Customs in New England.†

1681, *May 20.* The Rt Honorable the Lords of the Committee for Trade report to his Majesty that in consideration of my good service I ought to have a hundred pounds annually added to my former salary of one hundred pounds but his Majesty's service requiring my speedy return to N. England I was dispatched away and that addition not settled.

Dec. 17. I arrived again at Boston in N. England with his Majesty's Commission appointing me Collector, &c., but that Commission is opposed, being looked upon as an encroachment on their Charter.

Mar. 10. A law revived by the Assembly to try me for my life and for acting by his Majesty's Commission before it was allowed by them.

1682. His Majesty's Commission not allowed to be read openly in Courts. My Deputies and under officers imprisoned for acting by virtue of his Majesty's Commission.

Aug. 20. Other agents from Boston arrived in England.‡

Sept. 20. Boston agents appearing are directed to procure larger powers.

Dec. 20. I received orders from the Lords of the Committee to

* The date, 1680, prefixed to this entry, is intended to cover the year in which he experienced his adverse fortunes in our courts. He was in New Hampshire part of this time, on the same business, and was defendant in a cause tried there March 23; and the Provincial Records of that province speak of his being there as late as Nov. 3, 1680. — D.

† It will be understood that Randolph's return to England at this time was in the year 1680–81, the year then beginning March 25. — D.

‡ These were Joseph Dudley and John Richards. They had a long passage of nearly twelve weeks. They were absent a little more than a year, arriving in Boston, on their return, Oct. 23, 1683. — D.

return to England to prosecute a *Quo Warranto* against the Boston Charter.

1683, *May* 28. I arrived in England.

June 13. I was ordered to attend the Attorney General with proofs of the charge against the Boston Government.

July 20. Ordered a *Quo Warranto* be brought against Boston Charter.

Oct. 17.* I arrived in N. England served the *Quo Warranto*, published and dispersed two hundred of his Majesty's Declarations.

Dec. 14. I embarked myself for England, had a dangerous voyage, the vessel wrecked at sea, both her sides carried away in a storm, and all my goods lost.

Feb. 14. I arrived at Plymouth and was commanded to attend and prosecute the Boston Charter.

1684, *Oct.* 23. Judgment was entered up for his Majesty against the Boston Charter.

Dec. 20. I was ordered to prepare articles against the two colonies of Rhode Island and Connecticut.

1685, *July* 15. The Attorney General ordered to issue out writs of *Quo Warranto* against the colony of Rhode Island, Connecticut, &c., and against the several proprietors of Maryland, Pennsylvania and East and West Jersey.

Aug. 15. I was directed to serve the *Quo Warrantos* upon my Lord Baltimore, Proprietor of Maryland and the Proprietor of East and West Jersey, and to serve the two writs upon the colonies of R. Island and Connecticut, all which I duly performed.

Jan. 20. I and my family embarked upon the *Rose* frigate for N. England.

1686, *May* 14. I arrived at Boston with his Majesty's Commission of Government to a President and Council.

Then the Colony of Massachusetts Bay, the Province of New Hampshire and Maine are brought under his Majesty's Government.

May 30. I served the writ of *Quo Warranto* upon the Governor and Company of Rhode Island.

June 12. I made a second journey to Rhode Island to receive the General Court's answer.

July 12. I served the writ of *Quo Warranto* upon the Governor

* There is an error in this date. The date first written in was December 20, or 26, and then the present date, after one or more alterations in the figures, was written over. The true date of Randolph's arrival in Boston at this time is October 26. In a letter of his to the king, in Mass. Archives, vol. cvi. p. 303, he says: "I landed at Boston, in New England, the 26th of October last, where the General Court of the Colony had sat about three weeks, but upon notice given them by their agents (who had arrived four days before me), that they might daily expect me with a writ of *Quo Warranto* against their Charter, the Assembly was dissolved three or four hours before I landed. The next morning I delivered to the Governor your Majesty's declarations with the summons, and copy of the *Quo Warranto*." In a letter of Randolph's to Hinckley, in 4 Mass. Hist. Coll. vol. v. p. 93, dated "Boston, in N. England [Monday], Oct. 29, 1683," he says, "I arrived here Friday last," which would be the 26th. — D.

and Company of Connecticut above one hundred and fifty miles distant from Boston.

The Governor and Company of Rhode Island humbly submit to his Majesty and are by his Majesty's special order to his Excellency Sir Edmund Andros, Knt, united to this government.

Dec. 28. I received a second writ of *Quo Warranto* against Connecticut and was ordered to serve it.

Dec. 30. A second writ upon the Government of Connecticut is served upon the Government. They make their humble submission of themselves and Government to his Majesty.

1687, *Oct. 25.* His Excellency goes to Hartford the chief town in Connecticut and erects his Majesty's Government there, so that now the several colonies are united under his Majesty's immediate Government and authority, viz., the Massachusetts, New Plymouth, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and the Provinces of N. Hampshire Maine and Pemaquid, and the King's Province lying above seven hundred miles in length and above seven hundred miles upon the western sea.

The President called attention to the first volume of the "Memorial History of Boston," which numbers among its contributors many members of this Society.

Colonel T. W. HIGGINSON mentioned that a bridge over the Pemigewasset, at Plymouth, New Hampshire, was named in honor of Lafayette, "Pont (now corrupted to 'Point') Fayette."

Mr. DENNY mentioned, as an illustration of the vagueness of spelling in the first generations of New England, that the name of Moseley is spelt in eleven different ways in the volume of Dorchester Records lately published by the Record Commissioners.